IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A fuel control method for a combined plant that includes a gas turbine and a steam turbine connected to each other via a clutch, of controlling an increase or decrease of the fuel for the combined plant according to a difference between a target load set value input from a host computer and a value obtained by feeding back an actual load, the fuel control method comprising steps of:

detecting an engagement period or a disengagement period of the clutch to output a period detected signal when either of the periods is detected; and

switching the target load set value to the actual load during a fixed period before and after the engagement of the clutch and a fixed period before and after the disengagement of the clutch upon receipt of the detected signal as a trigger.

Claim 2 (Withdrawn): A fuel control method for a combined plant that includes a gas turbine and a steam turbine connected to each other via a clutch, of controlling an increase or decrease of the fuel for the combined plant according to a difference between a target load set value input from a host computer and a value obtained by feeding back an actual load, the fuel control method comprising steps of:

detecting an engagement period or a disengagement period of the clutch to output a period detected signal when either of the periods is detected; and

substituting a predetermined constant value for the difference stored on a memory during a fixed period before and after the engagement of the clutch and a fixed period before and after the disengagement of the clutch upon receipt of the detected signal as a trigger.

Claim 3 (Withdrawn): A fuel control method for a combined plant that includes a gas turbine and a steam turbine connected to each other via a clutch, of producing a revolution number command of the gas turbine according to a first difference between a target load set value input from a host computer and a value obtained by feeding back an actual load, and controlling an increase or decrease of the fuel for the combined plant according to a second difference obtained by comparing an actual revolution number of the gas turbine with the revolution number command, the fuel control method comprising steps of:

detecting an engagement period or a disengagement period of the clutch to output a period detected signal when either of the periods is detected; and

substituting a predetermined constant value for the revolution number command stored on a memory during a fixed period before and after the engagement of the clutch and a fixed period before and after the disengagement of the clutch upon receipt of the detected signal as a trigger.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A computer readable medium for storing a program for allowing a computer to execute a fuel control method for a combined plant that includes a gas turbine and a steam turbine connected to each other via a clutch, the method of controlling an increase or decrease of the fuel for the combined plant according to a difference between a target load set value input from a host computer and a value obtained by feeding back an actual load, the fuel control method comprising steps of:

detecting an engagement period or a disengagement period of the clutch to output a period detected signal when either of the periods is detected; and

switching the target load set value to the actual load during a fixed period before and after the engagement of the clutch and a fixed period before and after the disengagement of the clutch upon receipt of the detected signal as a trigger.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn): A program for allowing a computer to execute a fuel control method for a combined plant that includes a gas turbine and a steam turbine connected to each other via a clutch, the method of controlling an increase or decrease of the fuel for the combined plant according to a difference between a target load set value input from a host computer and a value obtained by feeding back an actual load, the fuel control method comprising steps of:

detecting an engagement period or a disengagement period of the clutch to output a period detected signal when either of the periods is detected; and

substituting a predetermined constant value for the difference stored on a memory during a fixed period before and after the engagement of the clutch and a fixed period before and after the disengagement of the clutch upon receipt of the detected signal as a trigger.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn): A program for allowing a computer to execute a fuel control method for a combined plant that includes a gas turbine and a steam turbine connected to each other via a clutch, the method of producing a revolution number command of the gas turbine according to a first difference between a target load set value input from a host computer and a value obtained by feeding back an actual load, and controlling an increase or decrease of the fuel for the combined plant according to a second difference obtained by comparing an actual revolution number of the gas turbine with the revolution number command, the fuel control method comprising steps of:

detecting an engagement period or a disengagement period of the clutch to output a period detected signal when either of the periods is detected; and

substituting a predetermined constant value for the revolution number command stored on a memory during a fixed period before and after the engagement of the clutch and a

fixed period before and after the disengagement of the clutch upon receipt of the detected signal as a trigger.

Claim 7 (Withdrawn): A fuel control apparatus in a combined plant that includes a gas turbine and a steam turbine connected to each other via a clutch, the apparatus that controls an increase or decrease of the fuel for the combined plant according to a difference between a target load set value input from a host computer and a value obtained by feeding back an actual load, the fuel control apparatus comprising:

an input unit that receives input about a target load set value output from a host computer and an actual load;

a trigger unit that detects an engagement period and a disengagement period of the clutch to output a period detected signal when either of the periods is detected;

a calculation unit that, when receiving the detected signal, switches the target load set value to the actual load for a fixed period from the receipt of the detected signal or substitutes a predetermined constant value for the difference stored on a memory, and determines a control output for a fuel control valve by multiplying the difference being the constant value by a gain; and

an output unit that outputs the control output to the fuel control valve.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): A fuel control apparatus in a combined plant that includes a gas turbine and a steam turbine connected to each other via a clutch, the apparatus that produces a revolution number command of the gas turbine according to a first difference between a target load set value input from a host computer and a value obtained by feeding back an actual load, and controls an increase or decrease of the fuel for the combined plant

according to a second difference obtained by comparing an actual revolution number of the gas turbine with the revolution number command, the fuel control apparatus comprising:

an input unit that receives input about a target load set value from a host computer, an actual load, and an actual revolution number of the gas turbine;

a trigger unit that detects an engagement period and a disengagement period of the clutch to output a period detected signal;

a calculation unit that, when receiving the detected signal, substitutes a predetermined constant value for the revolution number command stored on a memory for a fixed period from the receipt of the detected signal, and determines a control output for a fuel control valve by multiplying the revolution number command being the constant value by a gain; and

an output unit that outputs the control output to the fuel control valve.